



Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Training and Technical Assistance Center

The Prescription Drug Monitor

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2013 Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) National Meeting

The 9th Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program National Meeting, held in Washington, D.C. between September 25th and 27th, was a tremendous success. A record number of individuals (217) registered for this two and a half day national meeting sponsored by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). The meeting attendees included fifty-one PDMP administrators or their staff, representing thirty-four states. Attendees also included sixty representatives of state and federal agencies, seventy representatives of other organizations and industry, PDMP Technical Assistance and Training Center (TTAC) staff and PDMP Center of Excellence (COE) staff also attended. The first day opened with a powerful keynote address by R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy. Director Kerlikowske's speech was followed by impactful speeches by Kristen Mahoney (Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance) and Megan O'Donnell from Congressman Harold Rogers' Office. The rest of the day was filled with informative presentations about the Rx Stat Program, PMIX National Architecture, National Governors Association Rx Policy Academy, research from the PDMP Center of Excellence, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials project to partner public health and PDMPs, and the NarxCheck tool. The second day started with a presentation from the meeting's sponsor, Bureau of Justice Assistance, on their goals and commitments to this country's PDMPs. Also on the second day were presentations about innovative approaches by three PDMPs, integrating Health Information Exchanges with PDMPs, DEA's Diversion Control, update from SAMHSA, enhancement projects by two PDMPs, the Prescription Behavior Surveillance Project, and legal analysis of emerging PDMP issues from NAMSDL. The final day included presentations on the Oregon PDMP National Institutes of Health Study, enhancement projects by two PDMPs, HIE Pilot Projects, Electronic Health Record Pilot Projects, and ended with moving, closing statements from Michael Botticelli (Deputy Director, Office of National Drug Control Policy). For those that wish to have a copy of these presentations, they will be posted on the [TTAC website](#) soon.

Young Americans' Prescription Med Abuse Still Down

A study by the National Institutes of Health show that the illegal prescription drug use rate is down in 2012. The percentage of 18-25 year olds reporting illegal use of prescription medications was 5.3% in 2012; down from 6.4% in 2009. The report showed that the overall rate of illicit drug use for individuals over the age of 12 was approximately 9%. For illicit drugs, the study found that marijuana is still the most widely used, however there was a significant increase in heroin usage. The percentage change from 2007 to 2012 was approximately +79%. The report includes data on alcohol and tobacco usage as well. View the [REPORT](#).

Non-medical Use of Prescription Pain Relievers May Raise the Risk of Turning to Heroin Use

A report from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reveals that individuals, aged 12 to 49, who had used prescription pain medications non-medically were 19 times more likely to have recently initiated heroin usage than other individuals within that age group. Additionally, the report reveals that 79.5% of heroin initiates had previous non-medical use of prescriptions pain medications. Even though these are troubling statistics, the report shows that only 3.6% of the non-medical users of prescription pain medications went on to use heroin. By analyzing the data in this report, SAMHSA will strive to identify which factors may explain the increase in heroin usage. View the [REPORT](#).

2014 BJA Grant Announcements

The Bureau of Justice Assistance announced the FY 2013 Harold Rogers Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Grants. There are three (3) categories for the grants: Implementation and Enhancement Grant; Tribal Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Sharing Grant; and Data-Driven Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Reducing Rx Abuse Grant. The Implementation and Enhancement Grant was awarded to Guam, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, Oregon, and South Dakota. The Tribal Prescription Drug Monitoring Program Data Sharing Grant was awarded to Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians. The Data-Driven Multi-Disciplinary Approaches to Reducing Rx Abuse Grant was awarded to the Florida Department of Health, Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene - Alcohol & Drug Abuse Administration, Commonwealth of Massachusetts – Norfolk District Attorney, New York County NY District Attorney's Office, Fairfield County OH, and Jackson County OR. View the [GRANT AWARDS](#).

National Center for Health Statistics Report – Use of Electronic Health Records in Residential Care Communities

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) published a report providing a baseline on the use of electronic health records (EHRs) from data compiled with the 2010 National Survey of Residential Care Facilities. Among the findings, only 17% of residential care communities were using electronic health records (EHRs) in 2010. Of these communities, 40% were able to support the exchange of EHR information with other providers (25% were able to exchange information with pharmacies; 17% were able to exchange information with

prescribers). Typically, the EHRs contained medical provider information, resident demographics, service plans, lists of medications and patient allergies. It is believed that the use of EHRs will improve the quality and efficiency of health care for patients. View the [Report](#).

Food and Drug Administration Announces New Safety Measures for Narcotic Painkillers

The FDA, in an effort to promote safe use of extended release and long-acting opioids, issued a requirement for revised labeling. The new warnings restrict the use of these medications to those who need around the clock long term pain management and those that non-narcotic alternates have been effective. There is also a warning about narcotic withdrawal syndrome in newborns for pregnant women. A spokesperson for the FDA stated that the 'purpose of the new labeling is to make clear that because addiction, abuse and misuse are possible even at recommended doses -- along with the risks of overdose and death -- these drugs should be used only when other non-narcotic drugs have failed or aren't tolerated, or aren't strong enough to manage a patient's pain.' The FDA is requiring drug makers to conduct studies and clinical trials to assess the risks of misuse, abuse, increased sensitivity to pain, addiction, overdose and death associated with these medications when used over a long time period. View the [Report](#).

Did You Know?

- The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) is coordinating the observance of National Drug Facts Week; January 27 through February 2, 2014. Their goal is to schedule opportunities for teens to talk with addiction and health experts on illicit drug use, prescription drug abuse, and use of alcohol and tobacco. NIDA has provided a toolkit on how to create and promote an event. View the [ANNOUNCEMENT](#) and [TOOLKIT](#).
- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has made available an Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit. The toolkit provides materials for communities and local governments to assist them in developing policies to prevent opioid overdoses and deaths. The kit also includes resources for first responders, treatment providers, family members, and overdose survivors. View the [ANNOUNCEMENT](#).
- The Pharmaceutical Care Management Association (PCMA) issued a list of policy solutions to reduce prescription drug abuse and fraud in the Medicare system. The 'Safe Rx Initiative', sent to Congress in July, has five (5) recommendations: create safe pharmacies in Part D for controlled prescription drugs; require drugstores and pharmacists to register with state PDMPs; allow payers to coordinate with PDMPs; implement fraud prevention tools in Part D plans; and creat uniform federal track and trace standards. View the [PRESS RELEASE](#).

- The United Nations Office on Drug and Crime has released its 2013 World Drug Report. This report provides an overview of the most recent developments in drug production, trafficking, consumption, and associated health consequences. View the [REPORT](#).

Read [more](#)

PDMPs News and Updates

- California
- Guam
- Indiana
- Kansas
- New York

California – The California State Senate passed the PDMP funding bill ([Senate Bill 809](#)) that concurs with the one that passed the Assembly. The vote was 37-0 with one abstention. The bill now goes to the Governor for signature.

Guam – Biktor! The Guam PDMP is now operational. Congratulations to Cynthia Naval and her staff for their eksálente work. There are now 48 operational PDMPs.

Indiana – Taya Fernandes has accepted the Account Manager position with Appriss, Inc. We wish Taya success in her new position. Gregory Pachmayr will assume the administrator responsibilities for INSPECT

Kansas – Christina Morris, administrator of Kansas' prescription drug monitoring program, has accepted a position with Cerner. We wish Christina success in her new position. Jackie Yingling will be assuming Christina's roles with the PDMP.

New York – New York State's online system for identifying possible doctor shoppers was launched at the end of August. I-STOP or Internet System for Tracking Over-Prescribing was used by over 16000 registrants in the first three days of operation and discovered over 200 incidents of possible doctor shopping. View the [ARTICLE](#).

Articles for The Prescription Drug Monitor – If there are news items about your state's PDMP or if you have information that you believe would be of interest to other readers of The Prescription Drug Monitor, please let us know. The items can be sent to info@pdmpassist.org.

PDMP Training and Technical Assistance Center Providing Assistance - Brandeis University's PDMP Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) continues to provide assistance to grantees, non-grantees, federal partners, and other stakeholders. If you need

information, training, or other assistance related to PDMPs, please don't hesitate to contact us. Your request will get immediate attention, including input from other states in our national PDMP network, if necessary. The TTAC can help with questions about program evaluation, operating costs, laws and regulations, vendors, advisory groups, education, and more.

You can reach the TTAC team by telephone 781-609-7741 or e-mail info@pdmpassist.org.

PDMP Center of Excellence at Brandeis: “Helping PDMPs Realize Their Full Potential” - Funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, the PDMP Center of Excellence (COE) at Brandeis University collaborates with PDMPs and other stakeholders to help PDMPs achieve their full potential in combating the prescription drug abuse epidemic.

Major program areas include: encouraging and evaluating innovative uses of PDMP data, compiling PDMP best practices, advancing methods for assessing PDMP effectiveness, and providing an online clearinghouse of information and tools to enhance PDMP operations and help establish new PDMPs.

The COE welcomes your input and collaboration in fulfilling its mission. Contact us at info@pmpexcellence.org or call 781-736-3909.

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